

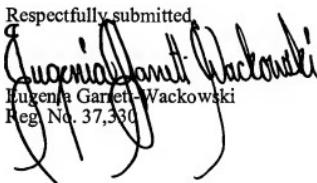
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 were pending. Claims 4-30 have now been withdrawn. Therefore, upon entry of this Response, claims 1-3 will be pending in the above-identified application. The foregoing election is made with traverse. Examination of the subject matter recited in the claims of Groups I-V would not place a substantially greater burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the Restriction Requirement and to consider claims 1-30 together in the present case.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,


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